



Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

NEWS RELEASE

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Baucus Applauds Appointment of Mark McClellan to Oversee CMS

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) U.S. Senator Max Baucus today applauded President Bush's selection of Mark McClellan as head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), stating that he's optimistic that the appointment will move smoothly through the Senate.

"Dr. McClellan was an expert resource throughout last year's Medicare prescription drug negotiations and I found him to be a straight-shooter who doesn't allow politics to get in the way of good policy," Baucus said. "I expect his Senate confirmation process to move forward without a hitch. I look forward to working together with Dr. McClellan as we oversee implementation of the prescription drug bill."

Baucus added that McClellan's background will be an asset to CMS, given his experience as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration since Nov. 2002, and his work with the FDA prescription drug review process. McClellan has also served as an Associate Professor of Economics at Stanford University, Associate Professor of Medicine at Stanford Medical School, a practicing internist, and Director of the Program on Health Outcomes Research at Stanford University.

During 2001 and 2002, Dr. McClellan was a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and counseled on health care and related economic issues for the White House. He also served in the Clinton Administration, working at the U.S. Department of Treasury.

"Dr. McClellan's broad background allows him to effectively view both sides of an issue and make decisions that work for the country. CMS will be well served to have him at the helm," Baucus said.

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